

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program  
 MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife  
 Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581  
 (508) 792-7270 x 165

## RARE PLANT OBSERVATION FORM

## OBSERVER INFORMATION

Observer's Name, Address, and Phone:

Arthur Haines

Woodlot Alternatives, Inc.

122 Main St., Topsham, ME 04086

Species Scientific Name: Caulophyllum thalictroides

NHESP Element Occurrence Number (if known):

Observation Date: 27 June 2000 (and several times in late April during the flowering period).

Today's Date: 28 June 2000

## LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

a) USGS Quad Name and Series (7.5"x7.5" or 7.5"x15"): Pittsfield West (1:25,000)  
 County: Berkshire  
 Town: Pittsfield

b) Directions to location of observations (please attach USGS map):

Off west side of Routes 20 and 7, north of South Mountain Regional headquarters — Division of Forests and Parks and south of Golf Course, in a mature rich-mesic forest. Plants are concentrated near southern ledge outcrops of forest.

c) Habitat: (plant communities, associated vegetation, physical characteristics, geological features, surrounding land use.  
 Are other rare species present?)

Rich-mesic forest on ledge outcrops and sloped land below ledges. Overstory dominated by Acer saccharum and Fraxinus americana. Understory Most Acer saccharum saplings. Herbs include Allium tricoccum, Impatiens, Polystichum acrostichoides, Dryopteris goldiana, Dicentra canadensis, and Deparia acrostichoides.

## POPULATION INFORMATION:

Population found? (Y/N):

If No, is population presumed extirpated and why?

If Yes,

Number of mature plants: ~300 total plants, each comprised of 1-5 aerial stems, about  
 Number of immature plants: 40% with ripening seeds.  
 Number of plants age unknown:

Population area (give unit of measurement): 50 x 75 meters

Percent of population:

in leaf: 60%

in bud:

in flower:

with immature fruit: 40%

mature fruit:

senescent:

Observations of floral visitors, fruit dispersers:

None observed

Vigor of individuals and population:

vigorous, some with damaged and wilting leaves (small portion of population)

Evidence of expansion or decline:

none observed

Have you observed this species at this site in previous years?

Please give details:

NO

#### SITE PHYSIOGRAPHY

Elevation:

Topographic position (crest, upper slope, mid slope, lower slope, bottom?):

Aspect (north, south, east, west, flat?):

Slope (0-20 degrees, 20-45 degrees, 45-75 degrees, vertical?):

Light (open, filtered, shade?):

Moisture (inundated, wet, mesic, dry, xeric?):

Soil types: Rich silt-loam

Surficial rock types (with percent of ground covered): unknown bedrock type, 15% of community with exposed rock

Bedrock/parent material:

Surficial water (distance away and source): 20 meters, small, ephemeral stream (1st order)

#### MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

MNHESP Site Name (if any):

Managed Area (if any):

Comments/Management recommendations:

Disturbance or threats (natural or unnatural) to population: forestry activity; invasive plants

Land Owner's Name, Address, and Phone:

(Alliaria petiolata common on edge of community)

Ownership Comments:

#### ELEMENT OCCURRENCE (EO) SUMMARY

(Circle one choice in each category)

##### EO Quality

How representative is this occurrence? Consider the size and productivity of the population and the vitality and vigor of the individuals.

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments:

##### EO Condition

Is the habitat supporting the EO pristine or degraded? Is there a potential for the habitat to recover from disturbances?

A - Excellent (B) - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Habitat is in excellent condition, but not extensive in size.

Comments:

EO Viability

What are the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence at the indicated level of quality?

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments:

EO Defensibility

Can this occurrence be protected from extrinsic human factors?

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments:

EO RANK

A summary of all factors listed above.

A - Excellent    B - Good    C - Marginal    D - Poor

Comments:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (if any)

*Overstory trees in community normally 40-70 cm dbh.*

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify under pains and penalties of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Arthur Haines*

Date: 28 June 2000

Please submit form, a copy of a USGS topo map showing plant location, and all supporting documentation to the State Botanist at:

Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program  
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife  
Route 135  
Westborough, MA 01581  
(508) 792-7270 ext 200

Thank you for contributing to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program database. Your efforts are valuable and appreciated.